2 February 1955

The Honorable Arthur S. Flemming
Director
Office of Defense Mobilization
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Flemming:

Mr. Dulles has turned over to me as Chairman of the Watch
Committee your letter of 3 January requesting general guidance
on the type of material your organization might furnish the IAC
Watch Committee under the provisions of NSC 5433 (NSC Action
1195-b).

The National Indications Center (NIC), the inter-agency staff
established to support the IAC Watch Committee, is now located in
its new quarters at BC-956 in the Pentagon. Information produced
by your Office would normally be made available to the Director of
The NIC [   ] for use   25X1
by the Watch Committee.

The Watch Committee has been informed of your request for
guidance and the Director of the NIC has already been in contact
with Mr. Alexander of your organization. It appears to me that
since the NIC is probably not as familiar as is desirable with
your organization and what it could provide the Watch Committee,
the most useful form of guidance in this connection would result
from a series of such contacts between members of the Watch Commit-
tee and the NIC and various officials in your organization. I
would suggest, therefore, that the Director of the NIC call you
and arrange to brief you on its functions and needs and then, under
your guidance, set up contacts with the appropriate offices.

There is no particular sensitivity about the existence of the
Watch Committee or the National Indications Center nor about the
general nature of their responsibilities. Hence instructions as
to supporting this work within your organization can be given to
all appropriately cleared personnel.

OSD review(s) completed.

SECRET

NIC

SECRET

ER6-4712

Office of Defense Mobilization
Washington 25, D. C.

Office of the Director   3 January 1955

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

The transmission of the memorandum by the Executive Secretary
of the National Security Council on the transmittal of information
to the IAC Watch Committee, in reference to NSC Action 1195-B
raises a question as to the sort of information that the Office of
Defense Mobilization and its agencies should bring to the attention
of the IAC Watch Committee.

In general terms we are, of course, familiar with the duties
of that Committee in accordance with terms of reference of the
Watch Committee as laid down by you on May 11. On the other hand,
many of the component parts of the Office of Defense Mobilization
which might be able to produce useful information would be una-
ware of what to be on the look-out for and whether or not it would
be useful for the Watch Committee to send it on for screening and
assessment.

If you think there is any sort of a useful indication that I
could give to those Assistant Directors of the Office of Defense
Mobilization who are dealing, for instance, with telecommunications,
materials, and the like, I should be very glad to have your guidance.

I should also be glad to have any guidance that you may wish
to give me with respect to how far down the line in the organiza-
tion, like the Office of Defense Mobilization, "need-to-know"
principle should apply in informing members of their staffs about
the existence of the Watch Committee and its functions.

May I suggest that in the matters of East-West trade direct
channels should be established with Assistant Secretary Samuel W.
Anderson of the Department of Commerce for matters that would
originate in his area.

I do not, myself, anticipate that there will be any large
volume of material that should be developed by the Office of
Defense Mobilization for transmission to the Watch Committee but
I am a little uncertain as to what your own policy guidance in the
matter is as to what would be considered useful and relevant
information, since we arenot an agency which in the normal course
of events has any particular intelligence functions.

Very sincerely,

/s/ Arthur S. Flemming, Director